

Serial No. 10/501,216
Docket No. 2515LN.eh
Ref. LEN.011

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for retrieving golf balls, said apparatus comprising:

a plurality of retrieving sections, each retrieving section including a frame, one or more receptacle baskets removably supported on the frame, and a retrieving roller having a plurality of retrieving disks; ~~and~~

a connection rail interconnecting the frames in side-by-side relationship; and
a plurality of support wheels, separate from the retrieving disks, one support wheel being positioned at substantially the middle of the plurality of retrieving disks of each of at least some of the retrieving sections, wherein:

over its entire length the connection rail is readily flexible in the vertical plane and rigid or substantially inflexible in the horizontal plane, and
the support wheels support the retrieving sections with the plurality of retrieving disks adjacent the ground to lift golf balls from the ground and eject the lifted golf balls into the receptacle baskets as the apparatus moves over the ground.

2. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the frames includes a mounting plate for fixedly mounting the frames on the connection rail.

3. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connection rail comprises a plurality of connection rail sections interconnected with one another at one or more of the frames.

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4. (Currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a ~~draw-bar~~drawbar mounted on the connection rail at a centrally placed one of the frames.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4, further comprising a wheel mounted on the drawbar; and a drawing device mounted on the drawbar.

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connection rail is formed of a resilient material.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the connection rail has a width to thickness ratio of 100 to 1.

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the connection rail comprises a plurality of sections interconnected with one another at one or more of the mounting plates.

10. (Currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a ~~draw-bar~~drawbar mounted on the connection rail at the mounting plate of a centrally placed one of the frames.

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11. (Currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, further comprising a ~~draw bar~~ drawbar mounted on the connection rail at a centrally placed one of the frames.

12-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the connection rail is formed of a resilient material.

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the connection rail is formed of a resilient material.

17. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the connection rail is formed of a resilient material.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the connection rail is formed of a resilient material.

20. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the connection rail has a width to thickness ratio of 30 to 1.

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21-22. (Canceled)